

November 16, 2020

Dear USD 439 families:

We continue to see COVID-19 cases within our school district and community. The below statement was released from Harvey County Health Department on Saturday, November 14, 2020.

Harvey County Health Department resources are at capacity due to the number of COVID-19 cases throughout our area. You are requested to do the following:

- If you have received notification that you tested positive for COVID-19, please isolate for ten (10) days from symptom onset or, if asymptomatic, your test date. A person who tested positive for COVID-19 will need to be in isolation for at least ten (10) days.
- If you are a household contact (close contact) to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, your quarantine will continue for fourteen (14) days once the positive person is released from isolation.
- If you have been notified that you are a direct contact (close contact) of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, you will need to quarantine for fourteen (14) days from your last exposure to the positive contact. Please consult with your local health care provider for evaluation and to determine if testing is recommended.

A close contact is defined as the following:

- Lives with the infected person or stayed overnight for at least one night in a house with the infected person.
- Had direct contact with infectious secretions of a COVID-19 case (example: being coughed or sneezed on, kissed, contact with a dirty tissue, shared a drinking glass, food, towels, or other personal items).
- A person that has participated in practicing or playing contact sports with a positive COVID-19 case. Contact sports involve more than occasional and fleeting contact and include such sports as football, basketball, rugby, hockey, soccer, lacrosse, wrestling, boxing, and martial arts. Other sports may be included if social distancing, mask use, and other mitigation measures are not followed.
- A person within six (6) feet of an infected person for ten (10) consecutive minutes.
- If the infected person is coughing, sneezing, singing, shouting, or doing anything else that expels respiratory droplets that carry the virus into the air, or if there is close contact with more than one infected person, a person within ten (10) cumulative minutes in a 24-hour period may be considered a close contact.
- A contact in an aircraft sitting within two seats (in any direction) of a person with COVID-19, travel companions or person providing care, and crew members serving in the section of the aircraft where the index case was seated (if severity of symptoms or movement of the case indicate more extensive exposure, passengers seated in the entire section or all passengers on the aircraft may be considered close contacts).

For general COVID-19 questions, call 211.

The health department is not a site for COVID-19 testing. If you need other services at the Harvey County Health Department, call 316-283-1637.

Remember to stay home when you are sick, wash your hands, wear masks, and practice social distancing. The steps we take as a community are for our community. The only ones to benefit are your loved ones, your schools, and your community.



Public Health

Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**Harvey County
Health Department**

I hope this information is helpful to each of your families during this very difficult time. Also, please continue to communicate all student illnesses to the appropriate building secretary and/or school nurse as we continue to track this during all learning environments (in-person, hybrid, remote).

Sincerely,

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